

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Original)** A collecting tank for a heat exchange medium, having a housing, in which a replaceable drier and/or filter device can be accommodated, the housing having an aperture that can be closed by a removable plug and sealed by a sealing means, characterized in that the plug is elastically deformable.
2. **(Original)** The collecting tank as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the plug is composed of plastic.
3. **(Original)** The collecting tank as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the plug has a shielding element against the heat exchange medium.
4. **(Original)** The collecting tank as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the shielding element takes the form of a coating, in particular a metalized or enamel coating.
5. **(Currently Amended)** The collecting tank as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterized in that the sealing means comprises at least one sealing ring of an elastomer material, such as rubber or Teflon.
6. **(Currently Amended)** The collecting tank as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that the plug is integrally formed with the sealing means, the sealing means in particular being molded onto the plug.
7. **(Currently Amended)** The collecting tank as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the plug can be held in the aperture by a retainer ring.
8. **(Currently Amended)** The collecting tank as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, characterized in that the aperture has a circular cross-section and the plug is

basically of hollow cylindrical design, the hollow cylinder being open on the side facing the interior of the housing.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The collecting tank as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that the housing takes the form of a tube with one open end, the plug being received in the open tube end.
10. **(Currently Amended)** The collecting tank as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, characterized in that the heat exchange medium is a refrigerant and the collecting tank is an integral part of a coolant circuit, in particular for a motor vehicle air conditioning system.
11. **(Currently Amended)** A heat exchanger, in particular a condenser, having tubes, fins and two head pieces, characterized in that the heat exchanger has a collecting tank as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1.
12. **(Currently Amended)** A coolant circuit of an air conditioning system, in particular for a motor vehicle, having a compression element, a first heat exchanger, an expansion element, a second heat exchanger and a collecting tank, characterized in that the collecting tank is designed according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1.